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265



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E 10 190

2

1947

PALESTINE

10 NOV

Registry Number

E 10490/84/31

FROM

E.O. Morales

No.

Panamanian

Dated

Legation

Received in Registry

CR-553
6 Oct EAM
10 -

'Pan York' and 'Pan Everett'
Refers previous letter (E 95114/84/21) Has now received reply from Sir Groat, who informs that they have placed the whole matter under the responsibility of the Consul General of Panama in New York, where both ships were registered.

Last Paper.

10450

(Minutes.)

Attach tel. to Washington

JB MW. 10

References.

E. 10196/84/31.

Further tel.

JB MW. 13

(Print.)

61852

(How disposed of.)

Tel) Washington 11743
Nov. 13.

Rptd.) C.G. New York 258
Panama 122

8) J.G.P. on E10680/84/31
✓ Nov. 15

(Action completed.)

J.M.B. 4/12

(Index.)

J.M.B. 4/12

Next Paper.

10493

32003 F.O.P

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Reference:

FO 371/61852

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LEGACION DE PANAMA

London, 6th October, 1947

No. CL-553
EAM

10 190

10 NOV

Dear Mr. Beith,

In my letter No. C-1147 of 6th October I mentioned to you that I was sending to my Government a copy of your letter No. E 9159/84/31 IMMEDIATE/CONFIDENTIAL.

I have now received a reply from my Government in which they inform me that they have placed the whole matter under the responsibility of the Consul General of Panama in New York where both the "PAN/YORK" and "PANCRESCENT" were registered.

The Consul will thoroughly investigate the responsibility of the directors, agents and solicitors of the "F & B Shipping Company" in connection with the illegal traffic of Jewish Immigrants to Palestine and I have every reason to believe that the information supplied by the Foreign Office will greatly assist the said official.

Since I spoke to you on the telephone this morning, I have been further advised by the Government that the representatives in Panama of "F. & B Shipping Company" had been requested to refute the suspicions raised by the Foreign Office. Unless they were able to do so, the "Patentes Provisionales" of the two vessels would not be extended, and furthermore, the "Patentes Permanentes" still in the custody of the Government would not be delivered.

As the "Patentes Provisionales" usually expire six months after registration of the vessels, this means that they will soon expire. Unless the charges made by the British Government are proved to be wrong - and in view of the evidence I cannot see how this can be done in time, or even ever - the vessels will automatically be struck off from the Panamanian registry.

Perhaps you will be good enough to pass on this information to the Secretary of State.

Yours sincerely

Eusebio A. Morales
Chargé d'affaires

J.G.S. Beith, Esq.,
Foreign Office, S.W.1

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Reference:

FO 371/61852

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Registry
No. E10490/84/31

Top Secret
Secret.
Confidential
Restricted
Open

CYPHER⁴

Date 4/11/47

Despatched 235A

OUT FILE

Draft. Tel.

Washington

11743

Nov: 13^d

Repeat

258 N. York (C-4)

Panama 122

Cypher

Sept. 1. No. 1

Copies 11P

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(13555) 114 200m 2/47 G.S.St. Cp. 620

RECEIVED IN C.B.
14 NOV 1947
SENT TO ELPT.

IMPORTANT
SECRET

My tel. no. 11510 [of Nov. 6:
Jewish illegal immigration]

Panamanian Consul-
Gen. suggests that
"provisional patents" of
"Pan York" and "Pan
Crescent", which usually
run for six months,
should shortly expire
and would not now
be renewed.

2. Can you let us have
an

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Reference:

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4A

An urgent estimate of the prospects of cancelling registration of these ships with particular reference to date on which this might become effective?

JB Nov. 13

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61852

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E

10493

6

1947

PALESTINE

10 NOV

Registry Number } E10493/84/51.
 FROM } P. A. Brantley
 No. } Paris
 Dated } 12/23/47.
 Received in Registry } 5. Nov
 10 -

Gildenan
 Transmits copy of letter from P. A. May. Tharrett
 to Mr. Cobley at Stoke,
 giving background story of the Gildenan,
 the source of the information is an excellent
 one.

Last Paper.

10490

(Minutes.)

Copies to: M.I.5
 C.O.
 Cabinet Office

usual names

References.

Western Dept. In 15.11.

[Signature]
 11/11

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 10 Lightam C.O.
 1, Robertson M.I.5.
 Entered Col. App.
 ✓ Nov 13

(Action completed.)

P. A. Brantley 17/11

(Index.)

[Signature]
11/11

Next Paper.

10497

32003 F.O.P

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References:

FO 371/61852

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267

E

9

1947

PALESTINE

E 10497

10 NOV

Registry Number

E10497/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

General
Algeria

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

101
7 Nov
10 -

Illegal Immigrant Ships.
Vessel (Identity unknown) of Guyotville, embarked
in ship boat 50-100 Jews on Wednesday night
Nov. 6. before intervention of police who have brought
300 to 400 others back to Algeria for repatriation
to their home - Tunisia and Morocco.

Last Paper.

10493

References.

In P.P. Algeria tel 102 7 Nov

Mr Cable

JB Nov. 10

Now see E 10608

(Print.)

J 13/11

(How disposed of.)

8, I.P.P. (on E10309/84/31)
Nov. 11

In P.P. C.C Med 091039 9/11

Now see E 10608

8, I.P.P. (In P.P.)
(on E10309/84/31)
Nov 11

J 25/11

(Action completed.)

GEM 11/11

(Index.)

11/11/48

Next Paper.

10498

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2					

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Reference: FO 371/61852

SECRET

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.
(*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

12
pw
E

E 10497 84 S)
12 NOV 1947

INDEXED

091039A/November.

From C. in C. Med.

Date 9.11.47.

Recd. 1102.

SECRETEX

Addressed Admiralty D.N.I.
Info. N.A. Paris.

IMPORTANT

R.O. Algiers reported 7th November that Number 272 GIOVANNI MARIA embarked 80 Jews off Guyotville five miles west of Algiers, on the night of 6th, 600 Jews awaiting embarkation were dispersed by police.

091039A.

Advance copies sent D.C. - R.C.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(3).
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
Naval Secretary.
Secretary.
U.S.S.
O.D.(8).

D.C.(2).
M.(8).
D.N.I.(5).
D. of P.(2).
D. of P.(Q).
C.N.I.(2).

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5 10498

DEPARTMENT NO. 2

14

Cypher/OTP

FROM TEGUCIGALPA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Fowler D. 4.15 p.m. 8th November, 1947
No. 37
8th November, 1947. R. 12.20 a.m. 9th November, 1947

My telegram No. 35.

Minister for Foreign Affairs telegraphed on November 6th to the Honduran Consul General at New York authorising provisional registration of the 2 tankers in question.

Please repeat to Washington as my telegram No. 5.

[Repeated to Washington].

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61852

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SECRET

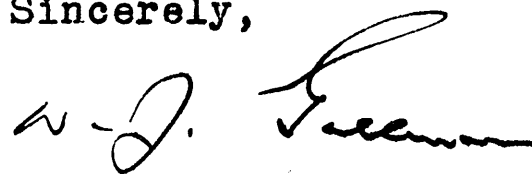
17

Sea during next five or six weeks. The representative of the Jewish Agency added that the agency would do everything within its power to prevent further incidents but indicated that the agency did not have complete control of the Jewish underground.

The agency requested any precise information available as to prospective sailings in order that it might use its maximum influence to prevent incidents. The Department's representative stated that it expected the Jewish Agency to exert itself to the utmost to see that the underground is restrained.

Furthermore the Secretary of State has in person called in Jewish leaders and informed them with the greatest possible emphasis that unless immediate and effective steps were taken to stop this clandestine activity he would have no other recourse but to treat the matter publicly."

Sincerely,



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Registry
No. E 10523/84/31

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Draft

Mr Gallman
U.S. Embassy

RECEIVED IN DIVISION	
18 NOV 1947	
SENT TO TYPE	18/11
DESPATCHED	19/11

Private Sec.

J.S. Beins
Nov. 13
(BEITH)

[Signature]
16.11

MR Wright

12.11

Private Secretary

OUT FILE

18 pm

18 pm

18 Nov.

18

Dear Mr Gallman,

Thank you for
your letter of Nov. 8
giving me the substance
of a telegram you had
received from the
State Dept. about
certain ships engaged
in the Jewish illegal
immigrant traffic to
Palestine.

I am grateful
for this prompt reply
to

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(13555) W. 49688-114 200m 2/47 G.S.St. Gp. 620

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Reference:

FO 371/61852

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E

1947

PALESTINE

10583

12 NOV

Registry Number

E10583/84/31

FROM

Chancery

No.

Athens

Dated

12/11/47

Received in Registry

3 Nov

12 -

P. Bonina

Report of 10583 (E. 10582/84/31) Greeks have now informed that "Bonina" is about to sail from Athens for Piraeus in order to register at the latter port. They say she has on board a cargo of guns and some Greek nationals who wish to return to their country, and that they have therefore volunteered her to fly the Greek flag.

Last Paper.

10523

(Minutes.)

Refers to:

C.O.
H.J.
Cabinet Office

usual names

References.

14/11

Telegram sent to Athens

[Signature]
13/11

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Higham, C.O.

Overhead

Lab off

Robertson 15/11 Nov 18

Tel. Bucharest 1290

13 Nov.

[Rptd. Athens 2152

Istanbul 77]

8) J.G.P. (on E10680/84/31)

(Action completed.)

[Signature]
11/11/47

(Index.)

[Signature]
11/11/47

Next Paper.

10587

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Reference: FO 371/61852

CONFIDENTIAL

46/400/47

10583
12 NOV

BRITISH EMBASSY,

ATHENS.

3rd November 1947.

Dear Department,

Please refer to our P/L No. 343, under cover of which we sent you a copy of a Note from the Greek Ministry for Foreign Affairs about instructions given to the Greek Consul-General at Istanbul not to grant Greek registration to the "Corina".

The Greeks have now informed us that the "Corina" is about to sail from Macin for Piraeus in order to register at the latter port. They say that she has on board a cargo of glass and some Greek nationals who wish to return to their country, and that they have therefore authorised her to fly the Greek flag. The Greek Note adds that instructions have been given to the Greek Consul-General at Istanbul and to the authorities in Greece to exercise the closest supervision on the "Corina" from the time she enters Turkish and Greek waters respectively.

We do not think we can quarrel with this action of the Greeks in view of the report in the M.I.5 fortnightly summary that the bunks on board the vessel have been dismantled and considering her present apparently legitimate voyage.

You will doubtless let us know if you receive any further information providing sufficient grounds for us to request the Greeks to refuse registration on arrival of the vessel at Piraeus.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

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Reference: FO 371/61852

Registry
No. E10583/84/31

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~~Secret.~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
Open.

J.E.C.

CYPHER

194 .

Despatched 3.30 / 13/11 M.

Draft.

BUCHAREST

Telegram.

No. 1290

(Date) Nov. 13

Repeat to:-

Athens No 2152.

Istanbul No 22

~~Pro Clair.~~

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:-

Departmental NO. 1

Copies to:-

I. I. P. RECEIVED IN C.B.

14 NOV 1947

SENT TO DEPT.

My telegram no. 1878 to Athens
[of 11th September: Jewish illegal immigration]

H.M. Embassy Athens report
that Greek Govt. have authorized
"CORINA" to sail under Greek flag
to Piraeus. She is said to have
a cargo of glass and to be
carrying Greek nationals who wish
to return to Greece.

2. Do you still consider
this ship suspect or does it
appear that this voyage at least
will be legitimate?

J.E.C.
13/11

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

6149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

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FO 371/61852

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E10585/84/31

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST

No. 1290

13th November, 1947. D. 3.35 p.m. 13th November, 1947

Repeated to Athens No. 2152.
Istanbul No. 77

My telegram No. 1878 to Athens [of 11th September:
Jewish illegal immigration].

His Majesty's Embassy Athens report that Greek
Government have authorised "Cerina" to sail under Greek flag
to Piraeus. She is said to have a cargo of glass and to be
carrying Greek nationals who wish to return to Greece.

2. Do you still consider this ship suspect or does it
appear that this voyage at least will be legitimate?

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271

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24

L 10587

1947

PALESTINE

12 NOV

Registry Number E 10587/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. M. Holman
Bucharest

Dated }
Received in Registry } 1316
11, Nov
12

'Pan Crescent' and 'Pan York'
Refer Bucharest tel 1297 (E10450/84/31) Bucharest
dispatch agent will be announcement that 'credit
lines' set by one of the international group
has secured authority to supply 'Pan Crescent' and
'Pan York' with 400 tons of fuel oil
Agent says that International Red Cross made request
to set up that vessels have used to transport
immigrants leaving Roumania.

Last Paper.

10583

References.

(Minutes.)

Southern Dept.
NOV.
15/11

13, Nov. 12

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

S. I.P.P. (on E 10450/84/31)
Nov. 12

(Action completed.)

[Signature]
11/11

(Index.)

[Signature]
11/11

Next Paper!

E10605

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10587
12 NOV DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

25

Cypher/OTP

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Holman D. 11.45 a.m. 11th November, 1947
No. 1516
11th November, 1947. R. 1.10 p.m. 11th November, 1947

Repeated to Moscow
Jerusalem
Sofia
Angora
Middle East Office Cairo
C-in-C MELF
Malta for C-in-C Mediterranean

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No. 1297.

Illegal Jewish emigration.

The Bucharest newspaper Argus of November 6th publishes an announcement that Credit Minier Oil Company, a company of Sovrompetrol group has received authority to supply "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York" with 40 car loads of fuel oil.

2. Paper says that International (sic) Red Cross made request for oil and that vessels have come to transport emigrants leaving Roumania.

3. Although there is still no considerable movement of Jews towards the Black Sea Coast, there are indications that departures will take place from Roumania.

Foreign Office please pass to Moscow, Jerusalem, Angora, M.E.O. Cairo (please pass to C-in-C MELF) and Malta for C-in-C Mediterranean as my telegrams Nos. 153, 65, 41, 24 and 12 respectively.

[Repeated to Moscow, Angora and B.M.E.O. Cairo].

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

[Copy sent to War Registry Admiralty for repetition to Malta for C-in-C Mediterranean].

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L. 10508

1947

PALESTINE

13 NOV

Registry Number

E10108/84/51

FROM

Small. Wilson

No.

Algeria

Dated

120

Received in Registry

12/11/47

13

Continuation of report on "Giovanni Maria"
Refer Algeria (Ls 101 & 102 (E/10497/84/51))
now provides further details of the largely
pre-arranged attempt to embark illegal Jewish
immigrants off Guyattville on the "Giovanni
Maria" on night of 5-6 Nov.

Last Paper.

10605

(Minutes.)

Copies to: gov
A.I.S. } usual
Cabinet Office } names

References.

Considering the difficulties of watching
a long coast line and the cunning
shown by the Jewish organizers, the
Algerian authorities have really done
very well.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Higham
Robertson
Crossed.

Nov 18

9, Algiers No. 104

Dec. 1

10, Paris no. 1480

11, Rabat no. 96

Kenil no. 98

PTO Dec. 1

(Action completed.)

[Handwritten initials]

(Index.)

[Handwritten initials]

Next Paper.

E 10647

32003 F.O.P

Western Dept.

[Signature]
(J.E. CABIN)
13/11

Would it be in order to
add Huxley's thanks to those
of HM. C.C. ? If Western Dept.
see no objection I think we
should.

D.S. Beint
Nov. 13

By all means let us do so.

William Blawie
SUBSTANCES
21/11

Draft

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Draft submitted accordingly.

Table
(S.E. CABLE)

25/11

J.S. Green
NW. 25

P 25/11

26A

10/11/11 - 100

Robertson 11/15

Overhead Cable App

✓ Doc. 1
~~App~~

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Reference: **FO 371/61852**

27

British Consulate General,
ALGIERS.

10th November, 1947.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 120

10008
13 NOV

Sir,

With reference to my telegrams No. 101 and 102 of the 7th November regarding the appearance of an unidentified vessel thought to have been the Italian schooner "Giovanni Maria" off Guyotville, some ten miles west of Algiers, during the night of the 5th - 6th November, I have the honour to furnish further details of this largely frustrated attempt to embark illegal Jewish immigrants for Palestine.

2. A local fishing boat was nearly run down by this vessel, which was moving on her Diesel engine without sails or lights. The fishermen made for the nearest shore, a stretch of beach between Guyotville and Sidi Ferruch, where they noticed a fair number of people on the beach. They at first suspected smuggling and, leaving one man to watch their boat, two of them went to alarm the police at Guyotville who, unfortunately, only sent two or three gendarmes to the spot, where on their arrival they found four of the ship's boats already ferrying people out to the ship on their second trip. The gendarmes, finding themselves quite incapable of dealing with the situation in the presence of what had now become several hundred Jews on the beach, fired off a rifle as a signal for further reinforcements, upon which the vessel shortly afterwards disappeared out to sea, after having remained off-shore some three-quarters of an hour, from 20.15 to 2100 hours. The fishermen and the gendarmes described the vessel in question as being a two-masted vessel with a funnel with sails, if any, lowered, which does not correspond to the description issued of the three-masted "Giovanni Maria", but allowance must be made for their impressions being possibly not fully accurate owing to the darkness of that night.

3. It is estimated, that as the ship's boats were only of small size, each of them could not have taken more than an average of ten passengers on each of her two trips, which would mean that a maximum of eighty Jews could have thus been ferried on board.

4. The Jews left behind on the beach were then rounded up by the gendarmes, who had been reinforced, and these were eventually brought back to Algiers next morning, 6th November. The Government General officially notified me that the number of Jews left behind amounted to 596 in all, including a considerable proportion of women, children and young men. Only 10 were from Algeria, having come from a place south of Oran; 39 were from Tunisia and no less than 547 from Morocco. They were mostly either stateless or with no proper identity papers available.

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

/5. The

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5. The Governor General told me in the course of a conversation on the following evening that it was his intention to deport these people back to Morocco or to Tunisia where they had come from. He had notified Paris that some of the ring-leaders, emulating the "Exodus II" incident, were threatening a hunger strike, in which case he proposed to use force to expel them if necessary. He had also complained bitterly to Paris about the laxity of Moroccan frontier control officials in letting Jews so easily over the frontier in such large numbers, which left a suspicion that they were only too glad to be rid of them and to dump them into Algeria. Few of these Jews were really residents of Morocco and it is believed that some stateless Jews from even so far away as Central Europe, having recently got into Morocco through Spain, were among those rounded up. These Jews had been housed in several camps of fifty to one hundred persons in the country outside Algiers and also in a Jewish school in Algiers itself, with the help of a mysterious Sionist organisation and with Sionist funds. A considerable number of women and children had also been found temporary accommodation among local Jewish families in and around Algiers as the result of a special secret appeal from local Jewish benevolent societies. The Governor General has sent for a prominent local Jewish doctor and repeated his previous warning (see my Despatch No. 110 of 4th October, 1947) that any further organised collection of Jews from outside for immigration to Palestine may inevitably lead to a clash with local Moslems who are beginning to feel bitter about such matters, in which case the Jews will have only themselves to blame if they arouse Arab hostility.

6. An alert along the coast in connection with this vessel following a communication sent to him by me on the 4th November had been ordered by the Governor General and Navy coastguards and police were on watch. Under such circumstances it may appear strange that the concentration of nearly 700 Jews passed unnoticed. They, however, used perfect infiltration methods. Women and children were sent off in trucks in the afternoon as if going on an outing to the seaside and men were taken, mostly in private cars, after darkness and hidden among the scrub in the dunes and in a dry ravine (Oued Beni Messous).

7. The illegal vessel only came in near the coast at around 2015 hours when complete darkness had set in and lay sufficiently off-shore so as to be barely visible from the beach. By the time the French naval patrol vessel "Sabre" had been sent out and reached the spot, the mystery vessel was well away and could not even be picked up by the warship's radar within its range of fifteen miles. The night was an extremely dark one, otherwise things might have been far different.

8. M. Yves Chataigneau, the Governor General and all higher French authorities have been most co-operative throughout this whole affair, which they have taken very seriously. I know that our good friend Vice Admiral Ronarc'h, K.B.E. passed two very disturbed nights on the 5th, the night of the incident and on the following night,

/when

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Reference: **FO 371/61852**

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Registry
No. E10608/94/31

OUT FILE

26/11
29

Top Secret.
Secret
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Open

J.L.C.

not
1 Dec.

Draft. Despatch

No. 104

Algiers

RECEIVED IN
26/11
1/11

P. Dannele
Wilson

Copies to:

Paris
Rabat
Tunis

C.O.
H.I.S
Admin Office

B.S. Denis
Nov. 25

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(83854) Wt.14696/147 75,000 6/47 A. & E.W.Ltd. Cp.685

Sir,

In your despatch no. 120 of the 10th November about the frustration of the "GIOVANNI MARIA'S" attempt to embark Jewish illegal immigrants from Algeria, you reported that you had already expressed your appreciation of their prompt and effective cooperation to the French authorities concerned.

2. If I should be grateful if you would now convey to the ~~Government~~ ^{Government - Gen. an} official expression of H.M.G.'s appreciation of the ~~helpful~~ ^{very helpful} ~~cooperation~~ ^{cooperation} of the ~~French~~ ^{local} authorities in this matter.

3. I am sending copies of this despatch to H.M. Ambassador in Paris and to H.M. Consuls-General at Rabat and Tunis.

I am etc.

15/11
25/11

(Sgd.) B.A.B. Rumors.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371/61852

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CONFIDENTIAL.

33 IN

WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

* (NOTE : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

151158A/November

From: C. in C. Med.

Date: 15.11.47

Recd: 1213

GENERALEX

To: Admiralty D.N.I.
Info: N.O.I.C. Port Said

IMPORTANT.

Following repeats Compal's 141903B begins:

Reuter Jerusalem has informed N.L.O. Palestine that PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT are due to pass through the Bosphorus this weekend.

- 2. This report comes from a reliable source in Istanbul.
- 3. There is no means of assessing the reliability of this report.

151158A

Advance copy to D.C.
sent 1600/15th November.

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)

D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q)
C.N.I. (2)
File 141903 Compal

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Reference: **FO 371/61852**

275

E

34

10668

1947

PALESTINE

14 NOV

Registry Number

E10668/84/31

FROM

W. Greenway

No.

Panama.

Dated

31 Oct

Received in Registry

17 Nov

D^o Demetrio Porral
transmits copy of letter from Demetrio Porral,
which appeared as column 'Hechos y comentarios'
by Felipe appearing on page 2 of 'La Nacion'
of 30 Oct 1947.

Last Paper.

10647

(Minutes.)

N.A. *[Signature]* 15/11

[Signature] 15/11

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

[Signature] 19/11

(Index)

[Signature] 11/11/48

Next Paper.

10670

32003 F.O.P

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Reference:

FO 371/61852

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35 E
Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.



10668

With the Compliments

14 NOV

of the

BRITISH MINISTER

at

PANAMA
E1022/84/1

Ref. Panama Despatch No. 84 of October 29th 1947.

PANAMA

31st October

1947

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				2	

Reference:

FO 371 / 61852

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276

E

38

E 10670
14 NOV

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number E10670/84/31.
FROM G.B. Dodds
No. Admiralty
Dated 12 Nov
Received in Registry 14 -

Naval Escorts for Illegal Immigrants
Copy of letter from G.B. Dodds to Lord Evershed
M.O. 9866/47 of 12 Nov discusses provisions
of naval escorts for repatriation of
illegal immigrants for Black Sea ports
and elsewhere.

Last Paper.

10668

(Minutes.)

This was agreed by the Working
Party subject to the views of W.O. and
the High Commissioner.

[Signature]
18/11

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)
[Signature]
24/11/48

(Index.)
[Signature]
24/11/48

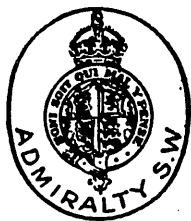
Next Paper.

E10680

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Reference: FO 371/61852

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entire E
39

10070

14 NOV

With the compliments of
Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.

12th November, 1947

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference:

FO

371

61852

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1947

PALESTINE

10696

15 NOV

Registry Number

E10696/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Sir V. Mallet

No.

Rome

Dated

21/11

Received in Registry

14/11/47

15

Refrainment of Jews to Italy.
Refr to Lt 2408 (E10692/84/31) was not
expect any co-operation from Italian Govt
in returning Jews to Italy. Given reasons
for believing that there is no likelihood
of Italian Govt agreeing to either of
alternatives under ref.

Last Paper.

10696

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, I.I.P.
Nov. 18

Ref Rome to 2447.
Lor 21.

8 I.I.P. Lor.

(Action completed.)

12/11/47

(Index)

11/11/47

Next Paper.

10730

(Minutes.)

A ship carrying Jewish illegal
immigrants was intercepted in Palestine waters
yesterday, but the C.O. have not yet received
any report from Palestine and do not, therefore,
know whether or not this was the
"RAFAELUCCIA". (See, however, attached Adm. Refs.)

Our telegram to Rome was, in any
case, little more than a formality and
their reply finally disposes of the case
for applying "refrainment".

~~Eastern Dept (Italian Section)~~

[Signature]
- (CABLE) -
12/11

This telegram was discussed yesterday
by the Working Party on Jewish illegal immigration,
who expressed considerable surprise at the statement
in para. 2 that our Embassy had not
even asked the Italians to detain this ship,
which has been on the suspect list for some
time. They suggested that the Embassy should
be asked for an explanation and that we should
impress upon the Embassy the importance of taking
action against all strongly suspect ships, whether
or not ~~it~~ an actual embarkation appears /to

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44

RESTRICTED.

IN

WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

151800B/November.

From COMPAL.

Date 15.11.47.

Reed. 1732.

GENERALEX

Addressed C. in C. Med.
Info. Admiralty. S.O.I.L.E.M.

IMMEDIATE

Sitrep number One. Suspect number 287 intercepted by VENUS after air search. Position 33 degs. 45 mins. North, 33 degs. 50 mins. East at 1800B.

151800B

Advance copies sent R.C. D.C.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(3).
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
W.S.S.
O.D.(8).
D.C.(2).
M.(8).
D.N.I.(5).

D. of P.(2).
D. of P.(Q).
C.N.I.(2).

1c47

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Reference:

FO 371/61852

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48 h.w.
RESTRICTED.

IN

WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

161736B/November.

From COMPAL.

Date 16.11.47.

Recd. 1755.

GENERALEX

Addressed C. in C. Med.
Info. Admiralty. S.O.I.L.E.M.

IMMEDIATE

Embarkation into transport RUNNYMEDE PARK
completed. Total 781 repetition 781 no incidents.

2. Sitrep Number 5.

161736B

Advance copies sent D.C. - R.C.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(3).
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D.(8).
D.C.(2).

M.(8).
D.N.I.(5).
D. of P.(2).
D. of P.(Q).
C.N.I.(2).
R.C.

1c22

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CYPHER

Registry
No. E10696/84/31

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

J.K.C.

F.O., 50

OUT FILE

21/11 1947

Despatched 4-7 M.

Draft.

ROME

Confidential

Telegram.

No. 2447

(Date) NOV 21/47

Repeat to:—

Your telegram no. 2141 [of 14th November: Jewish illegal immigration]

I am surprised to learn that Italian Govt. were not requested to detain the "RAFAELUCCIA" at Venice, irrespective of whether or not an attempted embarkation ^{in that area} was believed to be imminent. ~~Unless strong reasons to the contrary exist in a particular case,~~ Italian Govt. should be pressed to take measures to detain or delay all ^{strongly} suspect shipping in their ports as a matter of routine.

2. Please confirm that Italian Govt. have been ~~asked to detain~~ ^{asked to detain} "SAN LEONARDO", "ST. MORITZ", "RONDINE" and "YILDERAN", all of which are strongly suspect, and ^{wanted} about "GUERAZZI", "EFISIA SERRA", "VIOLETTE" and "FORTUNA", which are also included in fortnightly list of suspect shipping.

SAB
21.11

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Western Dept. (Italian Section)
first 2/11
H.S. Beist
NOV. 20

En Clair
Godin
Cyphe
RECEIVED IN C.B.
NOV 1947
Distribution TO BEPT.

Departmental NO. 2

Copies to:—

I.I.P.

225

43697-140 100m 3147 G.S.Si. Gp 620

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52

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Group *FO*

Class *371*

Piece *61852*

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E10730/84/31

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FO 371/61852

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283

1947

E

PALESTINE

E 10744

55

17 NOV

Registry Number E10744/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

Lord Renshaw
Washington

6453

15, 11/00

17

Colonel F.C. Johnson
Refer to tel nos 3 (E10746/84/31) Now gives position
in regards specific questions asked in para 1
of Lt. order ref.

Last Paper.

10743

References.

(Minutes.)

Please see also:

E 10730

E 10743

These three telegrams are encouraging
testimony to a sudden improvement
in the official U.S. attitude towards
illegal immigration.

No further action seems to be required
at the moment.

N.A. Dept. about 24/11

J. Cable
(J.E. CABLE)
17/11

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 90.p. by hand to:

c.o.
H.O.
Adly.
N/T.
Cab. Off.

Nov. 17

P.T.O.

(Action completed.)

J. Cable 1/12

(Index)

[Handwritten initials]

Next Paper.

E 10759

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Reference: FO 371/61852

Cypher/OTP

10744 DEPARTMENTAL No: 2

E 56

17 NOV
FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel
No: 6453

D. 12.20.p.m.16th November
1947

15th November 1947

R. 7.5.p.m.16th November
1947

Repeated to Panama
New York (Consul General) Saving

IMPORTANT

Confidential.

Your telegram 11465; Jewish Illegal Immigration.

Latest United States information on present status of the Colonel P.C. Johnson is contained in paragraph 2 of my telegram 6451.

2. Position as regards specific questions asked in paragraph 1 of your telegram under reference appear to be as follows;

We learn from indirect enquiry at United States Maritime Commission that United States law as such does not (repeat not) prohibit clearance of undocumented vessels but that any vessel sailing for a foreign port is required to obtain Customs clearance. She can therefore sail without clearance to another United States port. Customs collectors are required only to satisfy themselves as to ownership before giving clearance for a foreign port. Possibility therefore exists that Customs Officers might mistakenly clear ship on insufficient documentation or that ship might clear ostensibly for another United States port and then sail elsewhere. In the present case coast guard watch on ship should prevent sailing in either manner.

3. Ship might possibly sail under United States flag since present repairs will probably render her fully seaworthy but recourse may still be had to measures referred to in paragraph 2 of my telegram No: 6123. It is, however, very doubtful whether she would embark illegal immigrants while under United States flag. Alternative would be an application for transfer to a foreign flag either in a United States or in a foreign port. In both cases State Department could probably be persuaded to employ delaying tactics but it would be better from our point of view for application for transfer to be made here where we now have the advantage of

increased

NOV 1947
17 NOV 1947

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Reference:

FO 371/61852

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increased cooperation from the State Department and F.B.I. on the spot and where ship is farther removed from the danger zone.

4. I wrote on November 10th to Panamanian Ambassador to express your serious concern at the activities of three ships, with particular reference to the fact that Pan Crescent and Pan York are flying the Panamanian flag and that the Colonel F.C. Johnson may be applying for Panamanian registry. A later enquiry of the Panamanian Embassy to secure a progress report and to put the question raised in your telegram No: 11745, elicited the fact that they had decided that they must refer the question to the Panamanian Government. They were unable to give any estimate of the prospects of cancelling the registration of Pan Crescent and Pan York but said that they would be prepared to refer this also to Panama if I wrote again. As it appears that Panamanian Embassy are not in this instance prepared to act without instructions and if Panamanian Consul General in New York, with whom His Majesty's Consul General is seeking to get into touch, proves to be equally cautious I fear it will be necessary to pursue the matter in Panama.

X:X:X:

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Class *371*

Piece *61852*

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E10759/84/31

and closed until..... *1998*

*delete as necessary

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Reference:

FO *371/61852*

Registry
No. E10804/84/31

J.E.C.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open

Draft.

Washington

Telegram.

No. 11965

(Date) Nov, 19.

Repeat to:—

Panama (Laming) ✓
No 22,372

En Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental No. 1

Copies to:—

I. I. P.

OUT FILE

61

F. O.,

194 .

Despatched 11.18 / M.

~~En Clair~~

Your telegram no. 6473 of
17th November: Jewish illegal
immigration I

No objection.

J. J.
19/11

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

6pm

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FO 371/61852

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OUT FILE 63

E10804/84/31
Restricted
En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WASHINGTON

No. 11965

19th November, 1947. D. 11.15 p.m. 19th November, 1947

Repeated to Panama No. 22 Saving

Your telegram No. 6473 [of 17th November.
Jewish illegal immigration].

No objection.

F F F F

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E 10811/84/31

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61852

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65

1947

PALESTINE

10828

19 NOV

Registry Number

E10828/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

UK10d

No.

New York.

Dated

3442

Received in Registry

15/11/47

19 -

Illegal Immigration.

NAHUM GOLDMANN told Minister of State confidentially that the Illegal Immigration situation was now generally under control. He assured him firmly that the ship at Genoa would not sail.

Last Paper.

10811

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9.9.1.

Nov. 21

(Action completed.)

11/11/47

(Index.)

11/11/47

Next Paper.

10914

(Minutes.)

This is presumably NAHUM GOLDMANN, an influential member of the moderate general Zionist party and a personal friend of Dr. Weizmann. He lost his post on the executive at the same time as Weizmann, but it still a leading member of the World Jewish Congress. C.O. and M.I.S., whom I have consulted, think his intentions are probably good but doubt whether he has any influence on the organizers of Jewish illegal immigration.

Communications Dept. have asked Washington to check the name. N.A. Dept.

It has now been conveyed to Goldmann in a subsequent Tel.

J. Fable (S.E. CABLE)

19/11

J. E. G. G. M. V. 19

Nov 27. 22.11

Sir O Sargent

McLachlan 24.11

Wt. 2477/717 17895 1938 F.O.P.

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10328

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E

Cypher/OTP.

19 NOV

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations).

No. 5442.

D. 6.04 p.m. 18th November 1947.

18th November 1947. R. 11.22 p.m. 18th November 1947.

Repeated to: Washington,
Jerusalem,
Bucharest.

IMMEDIATE.

Nahum Gould told the Minister of State today confidentially that the illegal immigration situation was now generally under control. He assured him firmly that the ships at Constanca would not sail.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem and Bucharest as my telegrams Nos. 201 and 5.

[Copies sent to Bucharest and to Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem.]

W:W:W:W:W



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Reference:

FO 371 / 61852

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E

E 10914

68

1947

PALESTINE

21 NOV

Registry Number *E10914/84/31*
 FROM *of 0-minute*
 No. *11666*
 Dated *18, Nov*
 Received in Registry *21 -*

Pan Am and Pan Am -
 Report received that some passengers were ^{WS.} actually
 embarked on ship, only to be disembarked again
 after a short time. The committee had pronounced the
 accommodations inadequate. Further reported that
 extra accommodation is now being built and
 that ships will not, therefore, be ready for
 another fortnight.

Last Paper.

10828

(Minutes.)

S.P.P. BNA ANKARA 191127 19/11

References.

Now see E 10958

J 22/11

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Yel Bucharest 1514
Antd Jafin 1563
Argora 981
Moscow 867(5)
W'Yon 1185

Termination

Nov 18

S.P.P. (on E10772/48/31)
Nov 21

(Action completed.)

PO 11/12/8

(Index.)

11/16/10

Next Paper.

10928

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1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

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3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry No. E

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

BUCHAREST

Telegram.

No. 1314

(Date) Nov: 18

Repeat to:—

Sofia No 1563

Angora No 981

Moscow US No 8675

Washington US No 11255

Jerusalem US

E. in c. Med. G

~~En Clair.~~

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental No. 1

Copies to:—

I. I. P.

CYPHER

OUT FILE 69

F.O.

194

E 10914

Despatched 24 M.

21 NOV

Confidential

Reports

Jewish illegal immigration

Reports have been received here that some passengers were actually embarked on "PAN YORK" and "PAN CRESCENT" only to be disembarked again after a Jewish committee had pronounced the accommodation inadequate. It is further reported that extra accommodation is now being built and that ships will not, therefore, be ready for another fortnight.

2. We should be grateful for your comments and for any explanation of the long delay in the sailing of these ships which

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Reference:

FO 371/61852

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which you may be able
to suggest.

[Handwritten signature]
18/11
1201
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69A

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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OUT FILE 70

E

Confidential

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No: 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST

No: 1314

18th November 1947

D. 2.45.a.m. 19th November 1947

Repeated to Sofia No: 1568
Angora No: 981
Moscow No: 867 Saving
Washington No: 1185 Saving
Jerusalem Saving
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Saving

CONFIDENTIAL

Jewish illegal immigration.

Reports have been received here that some passengers were actually embarked on "Pan York" and "Pan Crescent" only to be disembarked again after a Jewish Committee had pronounced the accommodation inadequate. It is further reported that extra accommodation is now being built and that ships will not, therefore, be ready for another fortnight.

2. We should be grateful for your comments and for any explanation of the long delay in the sailing of these ships which you may be able to suggest.

X:X:X:

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291

1947

E

E 10329

73

PALESTINE

21 NOV

Registry Number E10929/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

6548

20, Nov

21

Last Paper.

10928

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. I.S.P. (on E10772/48/31)
Nov 21

(Action completed.)

J.E.M. 2/12

(Index.)

[Signature] 1/18/47

Next Paper.

E 10944

GLORIA

Rpts Washington (6548) (E10928/84/31) Bus
particulars of movement of 'Gloria' which left
London for Montreal but returned with
engine trouble on Nov 14. It had been sold
to a Greek named Athanasios, who is
known to have connections with illegal immigration
trippers to Palestine.

ADDRESSED SAN JOSE N° 3

(Minutes.)

Please see E 10928

[Signature] 2/11

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Reference: FO 371/61852

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10929

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21 NOV

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM WASHINGTON TO SAN JOSE

Lord Inverchapel D. 9.55 p.m. 20th November, 1947
No. 3
20th November, 1947. R. 3.01 a.m. 21st November, 1947

Repeated to FOREIGN OFFICE NO. 6548

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

Telegram No. 6547 to Foreign Office.

We heard in August that sea going tug Gloria (Ex ATR-7) of 300 GRT was in Charleston, that Honduran registry was being sought and that a Honduran Company called Athens Shipping and Salvage Company was to be founded to operate ship to Southern Europe.

2. Foreign Office have recently informed us that she left for Marseilles but returned to Charleston with engine trouble on November 4th. They added that ship had been sold to a Greek named Efthimos Athanasiou who is known to have connexions with persons engaged in illegal immigration traffic into Palestine. There were therefore good reasons to suspect her. State Department inform us that sale to him took place in July.

3. Latest developments are contained in my immediately [? gp. omitted ? preceding] telegram No. 6547 to Foreign Office.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to San Jose as my telegram No. 3.

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21 NOV 1947

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